

# Advanced Placement European History

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Greetings and welcome to Advanced Placement European History. Over the course of this year we will examine, explicate and excavate the happenings and developments of modern European history. Beginning with the High Renaissance and culminating during the late-twentieth century, we will consider vast social, political, economic, cultural and intellectual trends. Rather than merely access and regurgitate the past we will draw upon our own experiences, understandings, and imaginings to create a more tangible and meaningful historical discourse. Art and visual culture will enliven our exploration in order to challenge our assumptions. This document will be an integral part of one's success in this course and therefore this document should be kept in one's course notebook at all times. One of our chief goals will be to prepare for the Advanced Placement Modern European History Exam in May of 2009. Our second, a potentially most important, goal is to prepare students for the rigorous academic demands that continued education has in store for them.

We will make our understanding of histories significant by:

1. Cultivating intrinsic academic and scholarly motivation
2. Understanding and subsequently challenging historical discourses
3. Examining history as a discipline chiefly by questioning not the "what" but the "how"
4. Allowing interpretations of histories to become lenses through which the present can be contextualized
5. Communicating historical knowledge and competency
6. Advocating positions and debating viewpoints, often those we do not personally hold true
7. Employing healthy skepticism
8. Learning the language of sight and visual analysis through an affinity for art and visual culture

## Requirements

The primary textbook, *A History of Western Society*, must be present with you at each class meeting time.

### *Texts*

*A History of Western Society*, by John P. McKay, Bennett Hill and John Buckler.  
Houghton Mifflin Publisher, 2006, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition.

*Write for College*, by Patrick Sebranek et al, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1997.

### *Graded Assignments*

The grading criteria for this course will be distributed via a rubric for each individual assignment. Assignments must be completed by the due date specified. Failure to do so will result in a grade-based penalty. All assignments not submitted by the beginning of class will be considered late. If an assignment is turned in more than one calendar week late it will not be accepted. Extensions will only be granted if a request is made in advance. The reason for this extension must be well substantiated. Extensions that are requested on the due date will not be permitted.

### *Grading Formula*

Students will be assessed in a variety of formats. The breadth of the assessments is designed to allow each student ample opportunity to excel. The assignments, however, will mostly be in the vein of the format of the AP Exam. The grade distribution for assessments will be as follows:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Tests/Quizzes (announced)                             | 40% |
| Discussions/Class Participation/Quizzes (unannounced) | 15% |
| Writing Assignments/Essays/DBQs                       | 25% |
| Final Exam  | 20% |

### *Homework*

Students should expect a minimum of 45-50 minutes per class on homework and/or reading assignments. Completing, digesting and contextualizing reading assignments are an integral part of this course as well as crucial preparation for continued education. It is demanded that you will make use of note taking techniques for each reading assignment. It is imperative that the pictures, graphs, charts, maps and all other material accompanying each chapter is considered with the same diligence as the text itself. At the conclusion of each chapter students will complete the definitions of all of the key terms. Student will be tested on material in class as well as subjects that are not covered in class but only found in the reading assignments. There will be no official assessment of the student's ability to complete the aforementioned—as rarely such an assessment is used in continued education. That being stated, the student who makes a sincere and informed effort to take charge of his or her own learning will succeed in this course.

### *Tests and Quizzes*

Considerable tests will be administered to determine how well students have digested and comprehended the materials within each unit. The tests will also serve as practice for the AP Exam and thus, will allow the student to develop individual

test taking strategies. The tests will be in the format of AP Exams, that is, with multiple choice questions, DBQs and essays.

Announced and unannounced quizzes will be given throughout the course. Quizzes will consist of more factual based knowledge assessment. Quizzes will be brief in nature but will serve as an important means of determining the success a student is having with his or her homework. Simply stated, if a student is doing poorly on quizzes it is necessary for that student to investigate other homework strategies.

There will be not be any in-class review sessions before quizzes or tests. There will be assigned study groups, however, in which students are expected to prepare for the aforementioned assessments outside of class time. One member of the review session will be designated the scribe. The role of scribe will rotate. The scribe must compile all information learned and discussed at review sessions and send an electronic copy to me. Depending upon the organization and scheduling of the review sessions I can be available to answer questions electronically via AOL Instant Messenger or iChat.

### *Discussion and Class Participation*

Active and engaged participation is perhaps the most crucial element of the student's experience in this course. A good student is one who comes to class prepared, having completed the necessary assignments and contributes to show competency in the material. A stellar student is one who comes to class prepared, having completed the assignments and actively listens, questions, and challenges ideas in a healthy and respectful manner. Silence will result in a lower participation grade. Risk takers will be significantly rewarded. Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences will not be accepted. Medical reasons, family emergencies requiring absence from campus and school-required functions are the only acceptable absences from class. Each unexcused absence will result in a full point deduction from a student's **total** average.

### *Writing Assignments*

Written assignments will be an important facet of this course. Students will take home written assignments, whether they are in the form of a multi-paragraph essay or DBQ (document based question). Assignments that are take-home in nature will result in greater expectations than those completed in class. A successful student will use multiple sources and weave or pick apart relevant histories in order to craft an insightful and perceptive argument. Sometimes the take-home assignments will be timed and it is the responsibility of the student to behave with integrity and honesty in such instances. These assignments will always be distributed with a rubric outlining all pertinent information, which often will include an AP standard.

## *Academic Honesty and Integrity*

Academic honesty is an integral part of the learning that will take place in our classroom. It is expected that all work handed in by students is their own or that of their group, if applicable. Group collaboration outside of class is encouraged, however, a student's work must still be their own and remain substantially unique from that of their peers. A part of class time will be devoted to clarifying plagiarism and citations. It is important that students understand the seriousness of this matter and that they are fully aware of the school's policies as outlined in the School Life Handbook, (page 6).

## **Course Outline: Fall Term**

DBQ= Document Based Question & WA= Writing Assignment

| UNITS | DATES                      | TOPICS  | READING & ASSESSMENTS<br>(Due on date listed)  |
|-------|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1     | September 8th-19th         | Crisis of the Later Middle Ages<br><br>Renaissance  | Chapter 12: Sept. 11<br>Chapter 13: Sept. 15<br>Chapter 13 Quiz: Sept. 17th<br>Chapter 13 DBQ: Sept. 18th<br>Unit 1 Exam: Sept. 19th   |
| 2     | September 20th-October 2nd | Reform and Renewal in the<br>Christian Church<br><br>Religious Wars and Overseas<br>Expansion | Chapter 14: Sept. 22nd<br>Chapter 15: Sept. 29<br>Chapter 14 WA: Sept. 26th<br>Chapter 15 Quiz: Sept. 29th<br>Unit 2 Exam: October 2nd |
| 3     | October 3rd-October 17th   | Absolutism and<br>Constitutionalism<br><br>Absolutism in Eastern Europe                       | Chapter 16: Oct. 6th<br>Chapter 17: Oct. 11th<br>Chapter 17 Quiz: Oct. 15th<br>Chapter 16 DBQ: Oct. 16th<br>Unit 3 Exam: Oct. 17th     |
| 4     | October 20th-October 31st  | New World-view<br><br>Expansion of Europe   | Chapter 18: Oct. 22nd<br>Chapter 19: Oct. 25th<br>Chapter 19 Quiz: Oct. 27th<br>Chapter 18 WA: Oct. 29th<br>Unit 4 Exam: Oct. 31st     |
| 5     | November 1st-November 14th | Changing Life of the People<br><br>Revolution in Politics                                     | Chapter 20: Nov. 3rd<br>Chapter 21: Nov. 10th<br>Chapter 20 DBQ: Nov. 10th<br>Chapter 21 Quiz: Nov. 12th<br>Unit 5 Exam: Nov. 14th     |
| 6     | November 17th-December 6th | Revolution in Energy and<br>Industry<br><br>Ideologies and Upheavals                          | Chapter 22: Nov. 19th<br>Chapter 23: Nov. 21st<br>Chapter 22 WA: Dec. 3rd<br>Chapter 23 Quiz: Dec. 4th                                 |

|                                      |                             |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 6<br><br><br><br><br><br><br>6 cont. | November 17th-December 6th  | Revolution in Energy and<br>Industry<br>Ideologies and Upheavals | Chapter 22: Nov. 19th<br>Chapter 23: Nov. 21st<br>Chapter 22 WA: Dec. 3rd<br>Chapter 23 Quiz: Dec. 4th<br>Unit 6 Exam: Dec. 8th |
| 7                                    | December 10th-December 16th | Life in the Emerging Urban                                       | Chapter 24: Dec. 11th   |

**Literary Novel to be read over Winter Holiday Break**